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large pulsating aortic arches. These arches are sometimes called "primitive hearts."

These experiments were performed with large strong worms designated as A. B. C. The temperature was raised or lowered as seen by the table with the following results:

1. Change of temperature causes great irritability.
2. After a short time the worm becomes accustomed to change of temperature, and the aortic arches tend to revert to the original beat.

See specimen A, temperature 19° ; beats 14 16 14.

" A, " 10° ; " 8 11 8.

" B, " 10° ; " 8 10 $9\frac{1}{2}$.

3. The pulse beats with greater force at a low temperature.
4. Tendency to same rate of beat in same temperature.
5. The upper limit is reached at 35° , when the pulsations cease.

TABLE SHOWING PULSATIONS IN THE AORTIC ARCHES OF THE EARTHWORM.

Time.	Tempera- ture C.	Beats per minute.		
		A.	B.	C.
A. M.				
10.40	19°	14	18	20
10.45	19°	16	16	14
10.52	19°	14	14	14
11.15	10°	8	8	10
11.20	10°	11	10	9
11.30	10°	8	$9\frac{1}{2}$	$9\frac{1}{2}$
11.45	5°	7	6	6
11.50	5°	7	6	6
11.55	5°	7	6	6
12.15	12°	11+	12	10
12.35	22°	26	22	19
12.50	29°	28	26	30
P. M.				
1.07	35°	0	0	0

THE WEST VIRGINIA
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DIALECTICAL STUDIES IN WEST VIRGINIA.

BY SYLVESTER PRIMER.

In studying the language or pronunciation of any section of the country, it is necessary first of all to trace back the history of the people inhabiting it to the earliest beginnings in order to explain understandingly the dialectical peculiarities of its grammar or pronunciation. I shall, therefore, preface my remarks on the linguistical peculiarities of this region with a brief sketch of its earliest settlement and later development.

The early history of Western Virginia, now known as West Virginia, begins a century later than that of Eastern Virginia, or Virginia proper. In 1710 Alexander Spotswood, a Scotchman, was the deputy-governor of the Colony of Virginia. In 1716 he "gathered a party of the choice spirits of the Old Dominion, and set out on an exploration of the country beyond the Blue Ridge and Alleghanies, advancing as far as the fertile fields of Kentucky." As far as we know, he was "the first white man to enter the Great Valley, which was soon thereafter occupied by large numbers of Scottish, and some German and English settlers." In 1774 Virginia purchased from the Indians the right to make settlements to the Ohio, and built a fort where Pittsburg now stands. In 1752 Robert Dinwiddie, then deputy-governor of Virginia, began active relations with the great western country. "He encouraged trade and exploration with this region, and the Virginia traders swarmed across the mountains to traffic with the Indians, and there met with the French, which finally led, as you remember, to the attack on Fort Duquesne (now Pittsburg) and Braddock's defeat. At about this time the Ohio Company of Virginia began to take

steps to settle the western region, and encouragement was given both before and after the revolutionary war to settlers in this region." In 1738 Augusta was the frontier county, and then extended westward indefinitely. To the north lie Rockingham, Shenandoah and Frederick counties. Nearly all this region was settled by Germans and Swedes. "A Swedish congregation was here collected, and the Rev. Peter Muhlenburg, son of the Rev. Mr. Muhlenburg, father of the Lutheran Church in America, was sent to take charge of it." To the south lie Rockbridge, Botetourt and Montgomery counties. Botetourt became in 1769 the western frontier. From here the emigrants pushed forward to the westward, and soon settled the whole of what is now West Virginia.

History tells us that the Presbyterians were first in this field, and the fact that the people are of Scotch and Scotch-Irish descent would lead to the same conclusion. But it must not be forgotten that a greater part of the population of West Virginia were emigrants from Maryland and Virginia. A comparison of the names also will indicate in a general way the national characteristics of the inhabitants, and show whether there has been an intermixture of outside elements with the original settlers. However, too great stress should not be placed on mere names, as they might not always show the true nationality of the section from which their bearers came. Yet they are not to be discarded altogether, but must be taken into account in dialectical studies. They will show approximately whether the population has remained pure from the earliest times. On examining the names of the vestrymen of the earliest Episcopalian churches of this region, my only source of information, I find among the settlers from Eastern Virginia such names as Ballenger, Maury, Burton, Scott, Rucker, Godwin, Taliafero, Cabell, etc. Among the Scotch and Scotch-Irish names can be mentioned Balmaire, Quarrier, Dunlap, etc., while Bittenger, Swearingen, Muhlenburg, show a sprinkling of German and Swedish names. The names of the present day afford the same testimony and

show that the earliest settlers are fairly well represented by the present inhabitants. I am well aware, as above remarked, that this is not always a safe guide, but may, like tradition, sometimes mislead; still, in lieu of a better one it renders tolerably efficient service.

In the earlier days of these settlements the educational advantages were naturally slight, but later the conditions for education were about the same as those described in my article on the Pronunciation of Fredericksburg, Va., printed in the Publications of the Modern Language Association of America, Vol. 5, p. 188ff. In the same article (pp. 192-195) I have compiled two Vowel Tables, one representing the vowel sounds of the Virginia English of the seventeenth century, and the other the vowel sounds of to-day. In the present article I shall constantly refer to them.

I will here begin with the vowel *a* as heard in *father* (Sweet's mid-back-wide).^{*} Here, as in Fredericksburg, Va., we find the clearer, lighter sound of *a* as in *calm*, *psalm*, *palm*, *half*, etc. The other sound of these words (*i. e.*, *kœcem*, *sœcem*, *pœcem*, *hœœf*, etc., that is, Sweet's low-front-wide) is heard, though less frequently than in Fredericksburg, Va., or in Charleston, S. C. This sound of *a* in *father* (mid-back-wide) is also very common in words like *ask*, *demand*, *pass*, *trespass*, etc., though the tendency to the palatal *a* is strong. The two words *ant* and *aunt* are both generally pronounced (*œnt*, that is, low-front-wide), though the latter is often pronounced (*aant*, that is, mid-back-wide). The same remark applies to words like *gaunt*, *haunt*, *jaunt*, etc., where Sweet's low-front-wide (= *a* in *man*) is commonly heard, thus (*gœœnt*, *Hœœnt*, *Dzhœœnt*, etc). Occasionally one hears the mid-back-wide (= *a* in *father*); that is phonetically represented (*gaant*, *Haant*, *Dzhaant*), but I have never heard Sweet's low-back-narrow-round (= *a* in *law*;

^{*} The signs of Sweet's Primer of Phonetics are used in this article, except in quotations.

gAAnt, HAAnt, Dz hAAnt, etc.) Among all classes here, and especially among the uneducated, the mid-back-wide sound of *a* is retained in a large class of words where it either reflects the older pronunciation or shows the influence of the negro element. The negro is very fond of this *a*-sound, but I am in doubt whether it is natural to him or whether he may not have acquired it in early times from the whites themselves and retained it pure and uninfluenced by the change which this vowel has undergone in the progress of the language, just as the Irish have retained the older pronunciation of English. According to Ellis, E. E. P., this was the usual sound of the vowel *a* in the sixteenth century. In this list we find words like *clear*, *pair*, *there*, *where*, *fair*, *learn*, *prepare*, *queer*, *bear*, *square*, *were*, *rearguard*, *search*, *swear*, etc., in all of which the mid-back-wide is heard (klaar, paar, dhaar, whaar, etc.); we seldom hear the low-front-narrow (dhær, etc.) as in Charleston, S. C., but more usually the low-front-wide (= *a* in *man*). I am inclined to think that this sound is midway between the low-front-wide and the low-front-narrow. The negro pronunciation of *here* is (Hj'ar). Among the white population two pronunciations obtain: both ('ji'r) and ('ja'r) are common.

Under Sweet's mid-front-wide (our *e* in *met*, either long or short) we must class one peculiarity not yet noticed elsewhere, though found in England, viz., the pronunciation of the word *make* as mek, that is, mid-front-wide instead of mid-front-narrow. In the 17th century we find the same sound in England in the words *main* (meen), *major* (meedzhär), *mayor* (meer), *naked* (neeked), *nature* (neetv̄r). Dryden has *pains of hell* (peenz of Hel) and (mee) for *may*. Garth has *distress* rhyming with *place* (plees). In the 16th century this word *make* was pronounced (maak), that is, Sweet's mid-back-wide

as we see in Shakespeare's *Henry VIII.*, in the speech of Cardinal Woolsey to Cromwell:

Neglect him not; make use now and provide
For thine own future safety.

which according to Ellis, *E. E. P.*, 3,991, is to be pronounced

Neglekt Hím nŏt; maak yys nau and provaid
For dhain ooun fytytyr saafti.

The Anglo-Saxon form is *macian* where this vowel has the short sound of *a* in *father*, that is, Sweet's mid-back-wide. In Mid. Eng. the form is still *makien* and retains this mid-back-wide sound. But in 1766 Buchanan in his conjectured pronunciation of Shakespeare has: "*Meed tu Hiz mīstris aibrau*, and Kenrick, 1773, giving the pronunciation of the same passage has: "*Meed too Hiz mistris aibrau*." Both agree in the pronunciation of (*meed*) for *made*, so that this mid-front-wide sound of *a* in the verb *make* must have obtained in England to some extent in the 18th century. Benjamin Franklin, also, in his remarks on pronunciation in 1768 indicates the pronunciation of *makes* as (*meeks*). I am also informed that in at least two counties of England, Lancashire and Derby, the pronunciation (*meek*) is still heard.

The character *e* in the word *well* has a sound between Sweet's mid-back-wide (*father*) and low-front-wide (*man*), but inclining to the latter (*wɔl*), possibly Sweet's low-back-wide, Swed. *mat*. The word *ancient* belongs also to this class as it is here often pronounced (*anshent*) Sweet's mid-back-wide again. In addition to the two pronunciations (*agen*, *agenst*) and (*ageen*, *ageenst*) we find the pronunciation (*agin*, *aginst*), though only as vulgarisms. *Fornent* (*fornenst*, pr. *frnent*) may have led to the pronunciation of (*bi-jent*).

Sweet's mid-back-narrow (*but*) is very common to this region. It is what Sweet and Ellis call the American sound of the *u* in *but*, not the English. Here belong words like *took*, *look*, *cook*, *shook*, *book* (?), *put*, and others, all of which have nearly the sound of our *u* in *but*. A sound between Sweet's mid-mixed-

wide-round (ö, Fr. homme) and his high-mixed-wide-round (ü. Swed. upp) is heard in *could*, *would*, *should*; in *cool*, *good*, *school*, *who*, though preceded by the i-umschlag (kiud, wiud, shiud; kiul, skiul, Hiü). I hardly know whether this sound is to be attributed to the Scotch element among the early settlers or not. It certainly comes very near the Scotch sound as heard in *guide* (giud). It is, however, possible that it developed on this soil independently of the Scotch influence. This pronunciation is also peculiar to Fredericksburg, Va., and is heard in various places in the state of South Carolina. In the Upland region we have also a Scotch influence to some extent, so that even here it may be due to this element. I have noticed it moreover in other localities in the pronunciation of individual people. This sound of *u* in *but* is often heard in the pronunciation of *careless*, thus (karles). *Care* itself is often pronounced either (kir) but more often however (kear). Here belongs also that peculiar pronunciation of *room* (rium) and *tomb* in rhyme with *perfume* (tium, pärfium).

In studying the pronunciation of Fredericksburg, Va., I noticed two cases of the short (i) in the words (hill) and (mill). In West Virginia I found another example of the same sound in an individual pronunciation of the preposition *In* (iin). The word *ear* is often pronounced (jiir or even (jär). *Mischief* is accented on the ultima and pronounced (mistshiif). The past participle of *hear* is pronounced either (Hiirn or Härn; or Hiird or Hård), according to the form used. The sound (i) and (e) are often interchangeable, as (led) for *lid*, (red) for *rid*, (ef) for *if*; (güt) for *get*, (jüt) for *yet*, (jistärdet) for *yesterday*, (kitl) for *kettle*. To these we may add (dzhinëreshan) for *generation*, (sperit) for *spirit*, (resërikshan) for *resurrection*. The word *muskmelon* is here often pronounced (maskmiljan), which pronunciation goes back as far as 1685; for Cooper, in his list of words like and unlike, gives *melon*, *melo*, *million*, 1,000,000 sive centum myriades, which would indicate that the two words were nearly alike in sound. In *miracle* the *i*-sound often follows the

analogy of vowels before *r* and we hear not infrequently (*marɪkl*).

I feel convinced that we hear the open *o*-sound (Sweet's mid-mixed-wide-round=*ö*, Fr. *encore*) in the word *poor* (pr. *pöör*), and we also hear the long *o*-sound (Sweet's mid-back-narrow-round=*o*, Germ. *so*; pr. *poor*). The former is the same sound we often hear in the last syllable of *fellow* and *follow*, though the latter is the more common sound. The two words *born* and *borne* are both pronounced alike (*bɔrn*). *Forward* is frequently pronounced (*färärd*). The words *only* and *onhitch* (*unhitch*) belong here, as they are often pronounced (*ön-li*, *ön-hitsh*).

I can here repeat my remarks on the diphthongs in my article on the pronunciation of Fredericksburg, Va. "The sound (*au*, as in German *Haus*) is heard among a select few in *house*, *now*, etc., though the usual pronunciation is here (*eu*), never (*əu*). This latter diphthong (*eu*) is long (*eeu*) in *town*, *cow* and some other words, and short (*eu*) in most words, as *house*, *out*, *about*, *south*, *pound*, etc. Often (*EEə*) is heard instead of long (*eeu*), and (*Eə*) instead of short (*eu*). The diphthong (*iu*) is very common and the first element is often lengthened (*iiu*). Sometimes, however, the vanish is prolonged (*iu^u*). Instead of (*iu*), (*iü*) is often heard, especially among the lower classes. *Fruit* may be classed here also, or the sound often comes nearer the Swedish *u* in *hus* (*frUt*), or (*yw*). The same sound seems to be peculiar to people from the middle and upper parts of South Carolina." The diphthong (*ai*) is often changed to (*oi*), as in *title* (*toitl*). On the other hand (*oi*) often becomes (*ai*), as *boil* (*bail*), *joint* (*dzhaint*), etc., but this is a vulgarism common to all parts of the country. The word *ewe* (*jiu*) has frequently the pronunciation (*joo*), a pronunciation very common in Western New York. We also find (*rai-at*) for (*rait*), that is, *right*.

The consonants offer a few peculiarities. The *h* is often followed by the *j*-sound in the word *here* (*Hjeer*); in this case the *h* frequently becomes silent, or rather a mere breathing (*'jeer*).

W is exchanged for *v* in *very* (*weri*) and a few other words. The *r* is heard here more than in other parts of Virginia, but is often silent when final. We occasionally hear (*kjart*, *gjardn*, etc.), but not so commonly as in Virginia proper or in Charleston, S. C. After *s* a *t* is often added, as *close*, pr. *clost*. The *g* disappears in words like *length*, *strength*, etc., which are pronounced (*lenth* and *strenth*, etc.). The *t* between the *s* and *l* of words like *apostle*, *epistle*, etc., is sounded.

The accent of words is often changed, either as a general rule or by individuals. *Idea* frequently has the accent on the first syllable (*aídi*, or *aídië*). *Mischief* often transfers the accent to the last syllable (*mistschiíf*), though this is considered a vulgarism. *Difficulty* sometimes has the accent on the antepenult (*di-fík-al-ti*). *Trespasses* sometimes takes the accent on the penultimate (*tres-paí-sez*). *Contrary*, when it means perverse, froward, wayward, always has the accent on the penultimate (*kɔ̃ntreéri*). *Elizabeth* often has the principal accent on the ultima (*IlizEbéTH*). *Gethsemane* is often accented (*Geth-se-meén*).

Turning to the grammatical peculiarities we find the greatest variety in the verb. The tendency here is to form peculiar past tenses and past participles. Often one is exchanged for the other without any apparent reason. This is especially the case with the irregular verbs. The following list contains all those which I have observed:

1. Blow	blowd	blowd
2. Climb	climm or clomb	ciimm or clomb
3. Fight	fit	fit
4. Freeze	frozed	frozed
5. Hear	(Hiird), (Hiirn), (Harn)	(Hiird) heard
6. Heat	het	het
7. Help	helped (holp, pr. Hop)	helped (holp)
8. Know	knowd	knowd
9. Ride	rid	rid
10. See	saw (seen, see, seed)	seen (seed, saw)
11. Take	took (taken)	taken (took)

I find also a few lexicographical peculiarities which I shall give promiscuously, as it is not possible to arrange them in any definite order. *Reverent* is used in the sense of *genuine*, *thorough*, as *a reverent scolding*, that is *a thorough scolding*. *Satisfactual* is a vulgarism for *satisfactory*. *Shoot* is very common for *shot*, as "he made a good shoot." *Arter* for *after* is common all over the land. *Bold* is used in the sense of *strong*, *vigorous*, as *a bold spring* is one whose waters bubble up strongly. *A bunch of cattle*, is the only proper expression here in the West, but I never heard it in the East except in West Virginia. Webster's International, and the other dictionaries do not give this meaning for the word, though the Century gives *a bunch of ducks*. May not this meaning have started in West Virginia and passed to the West? *Gradjate* and *sosation* are vulgarisms.

An amusing popular etymology is found in the name of one of the valleys on Indian Creek. It is known as the Tuckahoe valley, and takes its name from the Indian tribe of that name, or it is at least an Indian name. The people living in this valley are of the lowest class, and have a peculiar dialect of which I have already noticed the most prominent features. Not being able to explain the word Tuckahoe they have based the derivation on the peculiar pronunciation of the past participle of *take* (took, p. tak), and *ahoe* is then made to mean *a hoe*, "he took a hoe." To this derivation the following legend has been attached: An inhabitant of this valley once became so poor that he was at last reduced to stealing, and *he took a hoe*, that is, stole a hoe. This will compare favorably with the English corruption of the name of the ship *Hirondelle* into *Iron Devil*, or the *route du roi* into *Rotten Row*, or *Bellerophon* into *Bully Ruffian*, etc.

Kittering means toppling, *afore* stands for before, *transits* means, not *transits of the planets*, but *transient guests* at a hotel. One minister, a hardshell baptist, or Ironsides as they call this sect there, spoke of the *texes* from which he preached

his sermon. I need not add that he was from Tuckahoe valley. *Slick* is used in the sense of *slippery*, *beegum* is used for *beehive*. The Century Dictionary gives the word; it was at first the body of the gum tree hollowed out and used for bees. A larger section, hollowed out in the same way, is used for a grain receptacle, and is called a *gum*. A *band of music* is called *musicioners*. In Fredericksburg, Va., I found this summer the word *burr* meaning gherkin, and have not yet been able to discover any explanation of it. The name may have some connection with *burr-weed*, though I doubt it. *Optionary* is an individualism for *optional*, though having the force of *capricious*. *Pert* (pr. piirt) is used in the sense of *well*, as *I am feeling right pert to-day*.

The region is full of peculiar expressions, and the careful collector would be well repaid for his trouble. Like the proverbs, the quaint sayings, the peculiar expressions of a nation form an interesting chapter in its history, and give a better insight into the distinguishing characteristics of a people than long years of its civil history. Often thoughts of ages are crystallized in such expressions and the study of intellectual growth and civilization of a nation cannot be pursued more effectively than by collecting and classifying its apothegms. But it is not my intention to enter so deeply into the subject, as I have given most of my time to the peculiarities of pronunciation and grammar. Besides, it would require years of study to collect all these expressions and put them in their proper order. I shall here select only a few of the most amusing and peculiar ones to show you what a rich field for such researches this section of the country affords.

A right smart little bit is extremely common, and *right smart seemingly* may find a place beside it. *I had laid out to go to the Dunkards to-night* is a not infrequent expression; of the same signification are *to go to do* and *to aim to do*. *Let on* is common nearly in the whole country; and so is *to get shet (shut) of*. *I feel like she did not do it* meaning *I think she did not do it* is

often heard among all classes of people. Some of the more amusing ones are: *I feel rather dauncy* meaning *I feel rather poorly*. Again we have a popular derivation for *dauncy*, which is rather more expressive than elegant. I have been told soberly by different ones that it is a contraction of *damn sick*. The dictionaries give no information on the subject. As an explanation of this word I would suggest, though with great hesitation, the French word *dancetté*, or the more common form is *danché* (*denché*), from which we have in English the two words *dancetté* and *dancy*. The great trouble is with the meaning. Both words are terms of heraldry, descriptive of *escutcheons* having the edge or outline broken into large and wide zigzags. The real meaning of the word is *indented*, and it probably stands for *denté*. Possibly the idea of being *broken* or *notched* like the teeth of a saw may have been applied figuratively to physical nature and would certainly have as much sense as the *broke bone* ever so common in malarial districts, and so dreaded. The most amusing expressions, however, were those heard in an Ironside sermon. But it would be impossible to reproduce them as they would lose their flavor if not delivered by the minister in person.

Often these expressions are of grammatical nature and deserve a careful study. Here are several of that character: *Would you rather have this as that?* though I have heard as used for *that* after the conjunction *than* in various parts of the country. A good old construction is retained in the following: *With the blood a-runnin' down his side*. This corresponds to, *he lay a-dying*, etc. Another (bible) construction is retained in this: *They looked for to see him die every day*. *For to* instead of *to* is now obsolete. The double comparative is not infrequent here. I noted *more pleasanter* on several occasions. In expressions of weather I find the following in my note-book: *To fair off* meaning *to clear off*; *to have a cloud* meaning *to have a shower*.

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